

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/002265

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-8 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-6 _____ received by this Authority on 03.05.2005 with telefax
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/1 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, nos. 1-4 _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims 2-6	YES
		Claims 1	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
		Claims 1-6	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-6	YES
		Claims	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	Reference is made to the following document:		
	D1: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, Vol. 014, No. 045 (E-0880) 26 January 1990 (1990-01-26) & JP 01 276554 A (TERU BARIAN KK) 7 November 1989 (1989-11-07).		
	1. Novelty of independent claim 1		
	<p>The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).</p> <p>Document D1 discloses (abstract) a lock system for a vacuum system (11) for the coating of substrates, having a prevacuum lock chamber (13) to which a prevacuum pump system (19) is connected by means of a first valve arrangement (18) in such a way that it can be separated. In addition, a high-vacuum pump system (22, 23) is connected in a separable manner to the prevacuum lock chamber (2) by means of a second valve arrangement (20). The second valve arrangement (20) can be switched on and off inversely to the first valve arrangement (18).</p>		

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The subject matter of claim 1 does not involve an inventive step within the meaning of PCT Article 33(3), because it is not novel.

2. Dependent claims

Dependent claims 2-6 contain no features which, combined with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step (see the documents and corresponding passages specified in the search report).